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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Harold L. "Lee" Milner of Springfield, who passed away on April 17, 2024; and

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WHEREAS, Lee Milner was born to Shirley and Dorena (Burkett) Milner in Breese on February 25, 1946; he graduated from Bridgeport High School in Lawrence County; he received a bachelor's degree in communications from Southern Illinois University Carbondale; he was drafted to serve in the U.S. Army in 1968; he later earned a master's degree in public affairs from Sangamon State University; he married Cynthia Young in Springfield on November 30, 1974; and

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WHEREAS, Lee Milner worked as a photojournalist for the Effingham Daily News, a clerk and photojournalist for the U.S. Army, a pathologist's photographer at Memorial Health in Springfield, a legislative coordinator in Washington, D.C., an assistant press secretary for State Representative Bill Redmond, a photographer for former Governor Patrick Quinn, and as the director of communications at the Illinois State Board of Education; after retiring, he continued to volunteer as a freelance photojournalist; and

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WHEREAS, Lee Milner served as president of the FBI

1 Springfield Citizens Academy; he became the namesake of an
2 award of excellence by the FBI Springfield Citizens Academy
3 Alumni Association; and

4 WHEREAS, Lee Milner's life and career were the focus of a
5 feature story in the Illinois Times on March 28, 2024; he was
6 further honored by the City of Springfield proclaiming March
7 28, 2024 as Lee Milner Day, Governor JB Pritzker proclaiming
8 April 10, 2024 as Lee Milner Day, and Speaker Emanuel "Chris"
9 Welch recognizing his work in a resolution delivered on the
10 floor of the Illinois House of Representatives; and

11 WHEREAS, Lee Milner was beloved across the political
12 spectrum due to his ability to connect with anyone through his
13 camera lens; he was always willing to help others and will be
14 remembered for his kindness; and

15 WHEREAS, Lee Milner was preceded in death by his parents;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Lee Milner is survived by his wife, Cynthia
18 "Cindy" Milner; his children, Leanne Milner and James Milner;
19 his grandchild, Clayton Sappington; his siblings, Burkett
20 (Beverly) Milner, Sandra (Rick) Babington, Darrell (Sue)
21 Milner, and Debbie Edwards; and several nieces and nephews;
22 therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
3 Harold L. "Lee" Milner and extend our sincere condolences to
4 his family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
5 further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to the family of Lee Milner as an expression of our
8 deepest sympathy.